THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) Instructions were issued to FDA, Maharashtra on 3-6-87 to withdraw permission granted for marketing of quadruple vaccine (combination of DPT and Polio).

(b) and (c) FDA, Maharashtra has already taken action to withdraw the permission to market the quadruple vaccine.

Substandard medicines

2872. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to refer to Unstarred Question 333 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 29th July, 1987 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 20 per cent to 30 per cent medicines have been found to be sub-standard;

(b) if so, what steps have been taken to curb this evil; and

(c) what are the details of action taken against the drug companies whose samples were found to be of sub-standard quality?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) to (c) The percentage of sub-standard drugs reported during the year 1983-84, 1984-85 and 1985-86 are as follows:—

Years	No. of sample tested	No. of samples found sub-standard	Percentage of Sub-standard
1983-84	16768	2535	14 98%
1984-85	18504	3532	19 08%
1985-86	19035	2705	14 20%

Under the provisions of the Drugs and Cosmetics Rules whenever any sample of drug is found to be sub-standard actions like withdrawal of batch from the market etc., cancellation/suspension of Licences and prosecution of the firm depending upon the nature of test reports are taken by the State Drugs Controllers who are the Licensing Authorities.

Consumption of Oxyphenbutazone

2873. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to refer to Starred Question 48 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 29th July, 1987 and state:

(a) the names of medical experts consulted about continuous consumption of Oxyphenbutazone and Phenylbutazone alongwith the names of institutions to which attached;

(b) what were the basis of their opinion and the grounds for differing with the World reports; and

(c) what are the names of other drugs being marketed in India for the treatment of Ankylosing spondylitis and gauty arthritis and whether any of these have been withdrawn by any country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) The expert bodies consulted on